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Rolling in money

Ah, the dilemmas of a career Navy man turned high-profile government employee. We're thinking, of course, of Adm. Stansfield Turner, who qualified for a \$23,390-a-year Navy pension by beating the deadline on a new law aimed at "double dippers."

AS A FOUR-STAR admiral, Turner undoubtedly felt he had his pension coming. But he's not exactly poor. As the director of the ~~CIA~~, he also collects \$57,500 in taxpayer funds.

With his pension, Turner will be taking in \$81,000 a year from the American public for services rendered.

We don't blame him for qualifying for his pension and assuring himself an excellent income for the day when he is no longer CIA director. But we think the National Taxpayers Union has a point when it says he should hold off on collecting that pension while he still holds public office.

Not many citizens are in a position to pick up an extra \$23,390 a year, and even fewer have the ethical or financial ability to turn it down for the sake of helping Uncle Sam.

YET THAT IS the action Turner should take, not only because the public understandably resents high-rolling bureaucrats, but also because the Carter administration badly needs an act of faith in its anti-inflation program.

If Stansfield Turner doesn't expect to get by on \$57,500 a year, what are the rest of us supposed to think?